

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 30, 2009; 4:30 p.m.
Council Chambers**

PRESENT	ABSENT
Trena Carter	Akua B. Agyei
Ian Kohen	Greg Lewis
Gil Palmer	Tony McClendon
John Roberts	Rosalind Pegram
Shiva Rallapalli	
John Stroh	

STAFF PRESENT:

Director Arlette Tinsley, Deputy Director Lorraine Smith and Secretary Lula Young.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Tinsley announced the decision of the Columbus City Council, by a one vote margin, to assign specific responsibilities of the Human Resource Director to the Human Rights Commission Director due to budget cuts, thus eliminating the Human Resource Director position. She advised that the action is to be effective January 1, 2010. Discussion of the statewide perspective of staff reductions due to budget cuts within municipal governments ensued.

Arlette informed Commissioners of a request received from the Columbus Young Professionals (CYP) and CAMEO organizations asking the Human Rights Commission to co-sponsor another 'Culture Shock' diversity training in addition to the 'Train the Trainer' session facilitated by Tatiana Kolovou. Discussion ensued.

Arlette went on to inform Commissioners that donations received for human rights trainings she has conducted have aided in building the Non-Reverting Donations account.

QUORUM ESTABLISHED: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Commissioner Roberts called roll. He then requested any corrections or amendments to the August 2009 Minutes.

**Commissioner Carter moved to accept the August 2009 minutes as submitted.
Commissioner Rallapalli seconded. Motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Roberts reported the Donations Account beginning balance as \$7,354.80, with an expenditure of \$60.00 paid to the Bartholomew Co. Literacy Task Force, leaving the month-end balance as \$7,294.80.

**Commissioner Stroh moved to accept the September Treasurer's report as submitted.
Commissioner Kohen seconded. Motion carried.**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

No Report for this month. Chairperson Palmer inquired if any reports were received in the Commission office involving any harassing type behavior at a local event within the community that was perceived as racially motivated and derogatory. Staff members were able to advise that no such calls had been received in the office. Discussion ensued.

OTHER BUSINESS – Presentation by Steve Franz EcO15:

Dr. Steve Franz of EcO15 shared his presentation reporting on the literacy levels within the Latino immigrant community. His report included data about the lower percentage of economic growth in Region 9 due to the economic downturn. Dr. Franz's presentation included data and statistics on future immigration waves with the expectation of a minority majority within the state of Indiana in the near future. Dr. Franz's statistics included high school drop-out rates within regional school corporations and lower graduation rates among minority students. Upon completion of his presentation, discussion ensued.

ACTION ITEM – Culture Shock/Train the Trainer program:

Commissioners discussed the opportunity to co-sponsor the return of Tatiana Kolovou's, "Culture Shock" training including a "Train the Trainer" session. The discussion included the fact that the training will be a collaborative effort of CYP, CAMEO and HRC and would provide the Commission an opportunity to stay directly involved in the growth and health of the community.

Commissioner Carter moved to co-sponsor the Culture Shock/Train the Trainer program with CYP and CAMEO. Commissioner Stroh seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned.